



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
United States Department of Agriculture • Washington, DC 20250
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Released on December 12, 2007

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David Knopf has been named Director of the Washington Field Office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). Knopf succeeds Chris Messer, who accepted the position of Chief of the Census Planning Branch in Washington, D.C.

As Washington Field Office Director, Knopf will be responsible for the forecasts and estimates published for Washington in various state and national reports. Knopf begins his position in February 2008.

David Knopf is a twenty-three year employee of USDA. Currently he serves as Director of the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, North Dakota Field Office. Before working in North Dakota, he was the Deputy Director of NASS's Maryland Field Office and served seven years in USDA headquarters bringing Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing to NASS.

David was raised on a crop and livestock farm in east central Michigan. Much of his production agriculture background was in small grain, dry bean and dairy farming. He was a Chapter Officer in FFA and received Michigan's State Farmer Award. Knopf earned a B.S. degree in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University.

He and his wife Beth have four children and do foster parenting. His personal interests include running, photography, gardening and collegiate sports.

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